

**Amendments to the Claims:** This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A filter material comprising:

at least one nonheatsealable ply comprising natural fibers and having a DIN ISO 9237 air permeability from about 300 to about 4,000 l/m<sup>2</sup>s; and

at least one heatsealable ply comprising consisting of natural fibers and synthetic fibers, comprising wherein each of said synthetic fibers comprises a fiber blend of a synthetic material and an adhesion promoter, wherein said adhesion promoter of said fiber blend consists of polypropylene grafted with functional maleic anhydride groups.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The filter material according to claim 1, wherein the adhesion promoter is present in the filter material in an amount from about 2 to about 25% by weight, based on the weight of the at least one heatsealable ply.

4. (Previously Presented) The filter material according to claim 3, wherein the synthetic material is selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, vinyl chloride-vinyl acetate copolymer and polyester.

5. (Previously Presented) The filter material according to claim 4, wherein the at least one nonheatsealable ply consists of natural fibers and is constructed to have wet strength.

6. (Currently Amended) The filter material according to claim 5, wherein the at least one nonheatsealable ply has a basis weight between about 8 and about 40 g/m<sup>2</sup> and a DIN ISO 9237 air permeability from about 300 to about 4,000 l/m<sup>2</sup>s.

7. (Original) The filter material according to claim 6, wherein the at least one heatsealable ply has a basis weight from about 1 to about 15 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

8. - 10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing tea bags, coffee bags, tea filters or coffee filters comprising the step of forming tea bags, coffee bags, tea filters or coffee filters using the filter material of claim 1.

12. - 15. (Canceled)